

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) In a communications network connecting telephones, a method for transferring telephone calls comprising the steps of:

determining the proximity of a first telephone to a second telephone;
initiating the a transfer of calls from the first telephone to the second telephone in response to the proximity; and

receiving the calls on the second telephone;
wherein, the communications network includes a positioning node (PN) and in which determining includes the PN collecting positional data to track the proximity of the first telephone to the second telephone, and

the communication network includes a plurality of base stations and in which determining includes determining the proximity of the first telephone to the second telephone through time-of-arrival measurements made on communications received by the base stations from the first telephone.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the first telephone includes a wireless location receiver, and in determining includes determining the proximity of the first telephone to the second telephone using wireless location receiver data.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2 in which the wireless location receiver is selected from the group consisting of global positioning satellite (GPS) and short-range positioning beacon receiver.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Original) The method of claim 3 in which the first telephone having a wireless location receiver, and in which determining includes the first telephone collecting positional data to determine its proximity to the second telephone.

6. (Cancelled).

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[6]] 1 in which determining includes the time-of-arrival proximity tracking being performed by the first telephone, in response to measurements made by the base stations.

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[6]] 1 wherein the communications network includes a positioning node (PN) and in which determining includes the PN performing time-of-arrival calculations, in response to measurements made by the base station.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the communications network includes a PN, mobile switching center (MSC), and a base station, in which determining includes the PN

~~tracking the proximity of the first telephone to the second telephone, and in initiating includes the MSC paging the first telephone.~~

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 in which initiating includes the first telephone acknowledging the page, and the MSC automatically initiating the call transfer.

13. (Original) The method of claim 11 in which initiating includes the first telephone acknowledging the MSC page, and the first telephone initiating the call transfer.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~in which determining includes the first telephone determining the proximity of itself to the second telephone, and in which initiating includes the first telephone initiating the call transfer using a star feature code.~~

15. (Currently Amended) In a communications network connecting telephones, a method for transferring telephone calls comprising the steps of:

determining the proximity of a first telephone to a second telephone;
initiating a transfer of calls from the first telephone to the second telephone in response to the proximity; and

receiving the calls on the second telephone,

The method of claim 1 wherein the communications network includes including (SIM) cards to identify the user of a telephone, and in which initiating includes initiating the call transfer of calls by moving a SIM card from the first telephone to the second telephone, and in

which receiving includes transferring a preexisting call from the first telephone to the second telephone.

16. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the second telephone is selectively enabled, in which initiating includes initiating the call transfer through enabling the second telephone, and in which determining includes determining the proximity of the first telephone to the second telephone after enablement of the second telephone.

17. (Original) The method of claim 1 including a further step, following receiving; nullifying the received call.

18. (Currently Amended) In a communications network connecting telephones, a method for transferring telephone calls comprising the steps of:

determining the proximity of a first telephone to a second telephone;
initiating a transfer of calls from the first telephone to the second telephone in response to the proximity;
receiving the calls on the second telephone; and
nullifying the received call,

~~The method of claim 17 wherein the first and second telephones have having power supplies, and in which nullifying includes nullifying the call transfer in response to one or more conditions selected from the group consisting of:~~

- 1) the elapsing of a predetermined amount of time;
- 2) the termination of a call;

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- 3) the power supply status of the second telephone;
- 4) the power supply status of the first telephone;
- 5) the radio frequency (RF) coverage enjoyed by the second telephone; and
- 6) the RF coverage enjoyed by the first telephone.

19. (Original) The method of claim 1 including authorizing the call transfer prior to receiving.

20. (Original) In a communications network connecting telephones, a method for transferring telephone calls comprising the steps of:

determining the proximity of a first telephone to a second telephone;
initiating a transfer of calls from the first telephone to the second telephone in response to
the proximity;
authorizing the transfer of calls; and
receiving the calls on the second telephone.

The method of claim 19 wherein each telephone having has a non-transferable identification number, and the communications network including includes an identification number cross-referenced database of permitted call transfers, and in which authorizing includes authorizing a
the call transfer of calls in response to checking whether the identification number of the first
telephone is cross referenced to the identification number of the second telephone.

21. (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein the first telephone has a user interface, in which authorizing includes entering a private code into the first telephone user interface to authorize the call transfer.

22. (Currently amended) In a communications network connecting telephones, a method for transferring telephone calls comprising the steps of:

determining the proximity of a first telephone to a second telephone;
initiating a transfer of calls from the first telephone to the second telephone in response to the proximity;
authorizing the transfer of calls; and
receiving the calls on the second telephone.

~~The method of claim 19 wherein the first and second telephones have having power supplies, in which authorizing includes authorizing the call transfer of calls in response to one or more conditions selected from the group consisting of:~~

- 1) the status of the second telephone power supply;
- 2) the status of the first telephone power supply;
- 3) the RF coverage of the second telephone;
- 4) the RF coverage of the first telephone; and
- 5) the wireless cellular capacity.

23. (Original) ~~The method of claim 19 wherein the first telephone includes a presentation mechanism, and in which authorization includes presenting the results of the call transfer authorization process to the user of the first telephone.~~

24. (Original) ~~The method of claim 1 wherein the first telephone is a wireless telephone and the second telephone is a automobile mounted wireless telephone, in which determining includes~~

~~determining that the proximity of the portable telephone to the auto-mounted telephone meets a predetermined threshold.~~

25. (Original) The method of claim 24 wherein the portable telephone includes an embedded wireless location receiver, wherein the auto-mounted telephone includes a port to accept positional data, wherein the automobile includes a wireless location receiver with a port to provide position location data, and in which determining includes the portable telephone collecting positioning data through the embedded wireless location receiver and the auto-mounted telephone accepting position location data from the port of the auto-mounted wireless location receiver.

26. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the first telephone is a portable mobile telephone and the second telephone has a predetermined fixed position, in which determining includes determining that the proximity of the portable telephone to the fixed position of the second telephone.

27. (Currently amended) In a communications network connecting telephones, a method for transferring telephone calls comprising the steps of:

determining the proximity of a first telephone to a second telephone;
initiating a transfer of calls from the first telephone to the second telephone in response to the proximity;
receiving the calls on the second telephone,

~~The method of claim 1 wherein~~ a plurality of wireless telephones are being provided, in which determining includes determining the proximity of the plurality of wireless telephones to the first telephone, and including,

proceeding initiating:

establishing a call transfer priority among the plurality of mobile telephones; and in which initiating includes initiating the ~~call transfer~~ transfer of calls to the wireless telephone among the plurality of wireless telephones with the highest call transfer priority.

28. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the first telephone has a predetermined fixed position and the second telephone is a wireless telephone, in which determining includes determining that the proximity of the portable telephone to the fixed position of the first telephone.

29. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the second telephone is a portable mobile telephone and the first telephone is an automobile mounted wireless telephone, in which determining includes determining that the proximity of the portable telephone to the auto-mounted telephone meets a predetermined threshold.

30. (Previously Presented) In a communications network connecting telephones, a system for transferring telephone calls comprising:

a first telephone connected to the communications network;
a second telephone connected to the communications network;

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a network positioning node (PN) having a port to the communications network to receive information regarding the positions of said first and second telephones;

a call transfer mechanism for transferring telephone calls from the first telephone to the second telephone in response to proximity of the first telephone to the second telephone; and

a plurality of base stations connected to said first telephone through a wireless communications link, said plurality of base stations timing the arrival of communications from said first telephone and supplying time-of-arrival data to said PN;

wherein said PN performs the proximity determination using the time-of-arrival data.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Original) The system of claim 31 in which said first telephone is a wireless telephone with a wireless location receiver selected from the group consisting of global positioning satellite (GPS) and short-range positioning beacon receivers;

in which said first telephone supplies wireless receiver location data to said PN; and

in which said PN performs the proximity determination in response to the received wireless location data.

34. (Original) The system of claim 30 in which said first telephone collects information regarding the position of itself with respect to said second telephone, and in which said first telephone performs the proximity determination based on the collected position information.

35. (Original) The system of claim 34 in which said first telephone is a wireless telephone, wherein:

the communications network includes a plurality of base stations connected to said first telephone through a wireless band communications link, said plurality of base stations timing the arrival of communications from said first telephone and supplying the time-of-arrival data as position information to said first telephone; and

in which said first telephone performs the proximity determination with the time-of-arrival data.

36. (Original) The system of claim 34 in which said first telephone is a wireless telephone, said first telephone further including a wireless location receiver selected from the group consisting of global positioning satellite (GPS)systems and short-range positioning beacon receivers; and

in which said first telephone performs the proximity determination in response the location data from said wireless receiver.

37. (Original) The system of claim 34 in which said first and second telephones each further include a short-range transceiver selected from the group consisting of Bluetooth, infra-red, Home RF, wireless LAN, a wireless radio transceivers; and

in which said first telephone performs the proximity determination in response to short-range transceiver communications between said first and second telephones.

38. (Original) The system of claim 30 further comprising:

the communications network includes a mobile switching center (MSC) to accept the proximity determination, said MSC initiating a call transfer from said second telephone, to said first telephone, in response to the proximity determination.

39. (Original) The system of claim 38 in which said first and second telephones are wireless telephones having power supplies, said first and second telephones reporting the condition of said power supplies to the communications network;

in which said MSC receives reports on the condition of said first and second telephone power supplies, and in which said MSC includes means to nullify the call transfer, from said second to said first telephone, in response to one or more conditions selected from the group consisting of said first telephone power supply condition, said second telephone power supply condition, the elapse of time since the call transfer was completed, the termination of a transferred call to said first telephone, and radio frequency (RF) coverage of said first and second telephones.

40. (Original) The system of claim 38 in which said first and second telephones have non-transferable identification numbers, wherein:

the communications network includes a database of cross-referenced identification numbers to provide cross-referencing reports; and

in which said MSC accepts cross-referenced identification numbers from said database, said MSC including means to authorize the initiation of the call transfer in response to the cross-referencing reports.

41. (Original) The system of claim 40 wherein:

the communications network includes a network node server; and
in which said identification number database is housed in elements selected from the group consisting of said first telephone, said second telephone, and said network node server.

42. (Original) The system of claim 38 in which said first and second telephones are wireless telephones having power supplies, said first and second telephone including means for reporting the status of said power supplies to the network; and

in which said MSC includes means for authorizing the initiation of the call transfer in response to one or more conditions selected from the group consisting of the condition of said first telephone power supply status, said second telephone power supply status, the capacity of the wireless cellular, the RF coverage enjoyed by said first telephone, and the RF coverage enjoyed by said second wireless telephone.

43. (Original) The system of claim 30 in which said first telephone further includes a logic module to accept the proximity determination, said first telephone logic module initiating a call transfer from said second telephone to said first telephone in response to the proximity determination.

44. (Original) The system of claim 43 in which said first and second telephones are wireless telephones having power supplies, said first and second telephones including means for monitoring the condition of said power supplies;

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in which said first telephone includes means to nullify the call transfer, from said second to said first telephone, in response to one or more conditions selected from the group consisting of said first telephone power supply condition, said second telephone power supply condition, the elapse of time since the call transfer was completed, the termination of a transferred call to said first telephone, the RF coverage enjoyed by said first telephone, and the RF coverage enjoyed by said second telephone.

45. (Original) The system of claim 43 in which said first and second telephones have non-transferable identification numbers, wherein:

the communications network including a database of cross-referenced identification numbers to provide cross-referencing reports; and

in which said first telephone accepts cross-referenced identification numbers from said database, said first telephone includes means for authorizing the initiation of the call transfer in response to the cross-referencing reports.

46. (Original) The system of claim 45, in which the communications network includes a network node server; and

in which said identification number database is housed in elements selected from the group consisting of said first telephone, said second telephone, and said network node server.

47. (Original) The system of claim 43 in which said first and second telephones are wireless telephones having power supplies, said first and second telephones including means for monitoring the status of said power supplies, said first telephone including means for authorizing

the initiation of the call transfer in response to one or more conditions selected from the group consisting of the condition of said first telephone power supply, the condition of said second telephone power supply, the RF coverage enjoyed by said first telephone, the RF coverage enjoyed by said second telephone, and the capacity of the wireless cellular.

48. (Original) The system of claim 43 in which said first telephone, following the proximity determination, initiates the call transfer by registering a star feature code with the network.

49. (Original) The system of claim 43 wherein:

the communications network includes a SIM card to identify the user of a telephone; and in which said first telephone includes means to initiate the call in response to transfer of the SIM card, from said second telephone, to said first telephone.

50. (Original) The system of claim 43 in which said first telephone includes a switch to selectively enable said first telephone, and in which said first telephone includes means for initiating the call transfer in response to enabling said switch.

51. (Original) The system as in claim 43 in which said first telephone includes means for authorizing the initiation of the call transfer by registering a private code with the network.

52. (Original) The system of claim 30 in which said first telephone includes a presentation mechanism; and

in which said presentation mechanism presents the results of the call initiation process to the user of the telephone.

53. (Original) The system of claim 30 further comprising:

a mobile platform;

in which said first telephone is a wireless telephone mounted on said mobile platform;
and

in which said second telephone is a portable wireless telephone.

54. (Original) The system of claim 53 in which said mobile platform includes a wireless location receiver having an output port to supply position data;

in which said first telephone has a port connected to said mobile platform wireless location receiver port to accept the position data from said automobile wireless location receiver;
and

in which said second telephone includes a wireless location receiver.

55. (Original) The system of claim 30 in which said first telephone is a portable wireless telephone; and

in which said second telephone has a predetermined fixed location.

56. (Original) The system of claim 30 further comprising:

a mobile platform;

in which said second telephone is a wireless telephone mounted on said mobile platform;
and

in which said first telephone is a portable wireless telephone.

57. (Original) The system of claim 30 in which said second telephone is a portable wireless telephone; and

in which said first telephone has a predetermined fixed location.

58. (Original) The system of claim 30 further comprising:

a plurality of telephones each having a proximity to said second telephone;
a database including a hierarchical transfer priority established between said plurality of telephones; and

in which a call transfer is initiated to a telephone, among said plurality of telephones, with the higher transfer priority.

59. (Cancelled)

60. (Cancelled)

61. (Cancelled)

62. (Cancelled)

63. (New) A method for transferring telephone calls comprising the steps of:

determining the proximity of a first telephone to a second telephone;

initiating a transfer of calls from the first telephone to the second telephone in response to the proximity;

the first telephone including a short-range transceiver,

the second telephone including a short-range transceiver,

the proximity of the first telephone to the second telephone being determined through communications between the first and second telephones using the short-range transceivers.

64. (New) The method of claim 63 wherein the short-range transceivers are selected from the group consisting of Bluetooth, infra-red, Home RF, wireless LAN, and radio transceivers.

65. (New) The method of claim 63 wherein the first telephone is a portable telephone and the second telephone is a mobile telephone.

66. (New) In a communications network connecting telephones, a system for transferring telephone calls comprising:

a first telephone connected to the communications network, the first telephone including a short-range transceiver;

a second telephone connected to the communications network, the second telephone including a short-range transceiver;

a call transfer mechanism for transferring telephone calls from the first telephone to the second telephone in response to proximity of the first telephone to the second telephone, the

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proximity of the first telephone to the second telephone being determined through communications between the first and second telephones using the short-range transceivers.

67. (New) The method of claim 66 wherein the short-range transceivers are selected from the group consisting of Bluetooth, infra-red, Home RF, wireless LAN, and radio transceivers.

68. (New) The method of claim 66 wherein the first telephone is a portable telephone and the second telephone is a mobile telephone.